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49767 7590 05/27/2008

DEMONT & BREYER, LLC
100 COMMONS WAY, Ste. 250
HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

EXAMINER

CALLAHAN, PAUL E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2137

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,108	07/22/2003	Robert James Howard	711-007US	9419

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING UN-AUTHORIZED ATTACHMENT OF COMPUTER PERIPHERALS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	08/27/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

49767 7590 05/27/2008

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or by facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	08/27/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
CALLAHAN, PAULE	2137	713-194000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).	2. For printing on the patent front page, list
<input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.	(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
<input type="checkbox"/> "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.	(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE _____

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY) _____

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:	4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)
<input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee	<input type="checkbox"/> A check is enclosed.
<input type="checkbox"/> Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
<input type="checkbox"/> Advance Order - # of Copies _____	<input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)	<input type="checkbox"/> a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.	<input type="checkbox"/> b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).
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NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS; SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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DEMONT & BREYER, LLC 100 COMMONS WAY, Ste. 250 HOLMDEL, NJ 07733			EXAMINER CALLAHAN, PAUL E	
			ART UNIT 2137	PAPER NUMBER
				DATE MAILED: 05/27/2008

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 840 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 840 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 10/625,108	Applicant(s) HOWARD ET AL.
	Examiner PAUL CALLAHAN	Art Unit 2137

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 2-27-08.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21 and 24-31.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is directed towards the Applicant's response filed February 27, 2008. Claims 1-21 and 24-31 are pending and have been examined.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2 of the Specification, the section heading above paragraph [0005] is amended to read:

Summary of the invention

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-21 and 24-31 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art in the field, Kaysen, US 6,839,776, does not teach the combination of features of the claimed invention as set forth in the independent claims, particularly including:

As for claim 1: An apparatus comprising: a first adapter with hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples a first port associated with a computer peripheral to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to a second port associated with a processor, where the processor has an associated software module that consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the processor; and means for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under control of the processor, and where the first adapter is destroyed when removed from the computer peripheral.

As for claim 2: An apparatus comprising: a first adapter with hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples a first port associated with a computer peripheral to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to a second port associated with a processor, where the processor has an associated software module that consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the processor; and means for

enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under control of the processor, and where the first adapter and second adapters comprise keyed-connectors, and where the first keyed-connector and the second-keyed-connector are keyed to each other.

As for claim 7: An apparatus comprising: a first adapter containing hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples a first port associated with a computer peripheral to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to a second port associated with a processor, and where the first adapter and the second adapter are physically connected to one another; a first software module associated with the processor, where the first software module consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the processor; means for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under control of the processor, and a second software module associated with the processor, where the second software module: retrieves the unique identifier from the first adapter; compares the unique identifier with the list; and enables the communication if a match of the unique identifier is found in the list.

As for claim 8 An apparatus comprising: a first adapter including hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples a first port

associated with a computer peripheral to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to a second port associated with a processor; a first software module associated with the processor, where the first software module consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the processor; means for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under control of the processor, and a second software module associated with the processor, where the second software module retrieves the unique identifier from the first adapter; compares the unique identifier with the list; enables the communication if a match of the unique identifier is found in the list; stores information indicative of not finding a match of the unique identifier in the list; and generates an email indicative of not finding a match of the unique identifier in the list.

As for claim 10: An apparatus comprising: a first adapter with hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples a first port associated with a computer peripheral to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to a second port associated with a processor, where the processor has an associated software module that consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the processor; and means for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under control of the

processor, and where the first adapter and second adapter are physically connected to one another.

As for claim 12: An apparatus comprising:: a computer peripheral comprising a first port; a host computer comprising a second port; a computer network comprising a third port and a fourth port, where the third port is coupled to the second port; a first adapter containing a first hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples the first port to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to the fourth port, a first software module associated with the host computer, where the first software module consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the host computer and a second hardware for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under the control of the host computer, where the second hardware is contained within the second adapter.

As for claim 21: An apparatus comprising: a computer peripheral comprising a first port; a host computer comprising a second port; a first adapter containing a first hardware for storing a unique identifier; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples the first port to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to the second port, and where the first adapter and the second adapter are

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physically connected to one another; a first software module associated with the host computer, where the first software module consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the host computer; and a second hardware for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under the control of the host computer, where the second hardware is contained within one of the first adapter or the second adapter.

As for claim 26: An apparatus comprising: a computer peripheral comprising a first port; a host computer comprising a second port; a first adapter, where the first adapter contains a first hardware for storing a unique identifier, and further where the first adapter is destroyed when removed from the computer peripheral the first hardware; a second adapter, where the first adapter couples the first port to the second adapter, and where the second adapter couples the first adapter to the second port; a first software module associated with the host computer, where the first software module consults a list of identifiers within the first software module and where each of the identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with the host computer; and a second hardware for enabling communication to and from the computer peripheral under the control of the host computer, where the second hardware is contained within one of the first adapter or the second adapter.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Paul Callahan/
May 21, 2008

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137